Clearance for Cogentrix Power Project

865. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the mega-thermal unit of Cogentrix proposed to be set up in Mangalore;

(b) what are the factors delaying the final clearnace of the project at the Centre;

(c) whether Government are aware of the implications of both time and project cost over run due to such delays; and

(d) by when Government would give final clearance to the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have received the Detailed Project Report and the same is under examination in the CEA.

(b) The folowing inputs/clearances are required to be obtained by the Company before CEA could consider and accord techno-economic clearance of the project:

(i) Environmental clearance from the Union Ministry of Environment & Forests;

(ii) Firmed up cost and financial package from Government of Kernataka.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Final techno-economic clerarance of the project could be considered only after submission of all requisite inputs/ clearances by the Company/Government of Karnataka.

Agreement between India and Turkmenistan

866. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) details of agreements signed recently with Turkmenistan and the amount of credit envisaged from India to that country under these agreements; and

(b) details of joint ventures, if any, expected to be taken up under those agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) During the visit of Prime Minister to Turkmenistan from 19-21 September, 1995 the following Agreements/MOUs/ Protocols were concluded between the two Governments:

(i) *Credit Agreements:* Under this Agreement, India has extended a credit of US $ 10 million to the Government of Turkmenistan for export of Indian capital goods, services and consumer durables from India to Turkmenistan. The credit is on concessional terms and repayable over a period of 12 years, inclusive of grace period of 3 years, except in respect of consumer durables where the repayment period and moratorium are to be 3 years and 1 year respectively.

(ii) *Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investments:* This agreement secures the investments in both countries against nationalisation or expropriation in any manner except for a public purpose, in accordance with law, on a non-discreminatory basis and against fair and equitable compensation and also envisages, inter alia, non-discriminatory compensation for losses owing to civil war, repatriation of investments and returns, subrogation, settlement of disputes, etc.

(iii) *Agreement on the Inter-Governmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation:* This Agreement enviages the setting up of the Joint Commission to promote bilateral cooperation in different functional spheres and lays down the scope of its functioning, the manner and frequency of its meetings and related modalities.